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PATRIOT'S LETTER

TO THE

Duke of *DORSET*,

Written in the YEAR 1731.

WITH A

DEDICATION

TO THE

CORK-SURGEON

Of the YEAR 1749.

DUBLIN:

Printed and sold by WILLIAM JOHNSTON, in
Crooked-Staff. 1749.

PATRICK'S LETTER

DEDICATION

Duke of OTHMAN

WRITTEN in 1791 by H. O. N.



DEDICATION

It takes the liberty of naming an author, and

it passing free judgment on the work: And the

sentiments of men, on the same subject, are

very various. I have late

received great pleasure from many surprising re-

marks concerning the author of the following let-

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but there seems to be something similar in all

D. U. A. I. W.

which is only placed in a stronger or weaker light

Printed and sold by WILLIAM JOHNSON, in
agreement to the society which pays it.

A

DEDICATION

T O T H E

C O R K - S U R G E O N .

S I R,

WHEN a pamphlet is ushered into the world by the printer only ; every reader takes the liberty of naming an author, and of passing free judgement on the work : And the sentiments of men, on the same subject, are scarce less variable than their faces. I have lately received great pleasure from many surprizing remarks concerning the author of the following letter. The descriptions of him are different indeed, but there seems to be something similar in all, which is only placed in a stronger or weaker light, agreeably to the fancy which paints it.

ONE man, astonished at the savage boldness of this letter and its bloody tendency, proportions the whole portrait to this idea, and represents the author as a person of gigantic stature, POLYPHEMUS-like bestriding the earth in quest of prey, and like that monster grumbling his delight in blood. A second class, of milder imagination, reduces him to the more moderate size of six feet, but characterises him still more particularly, by affirming, that his principal diversion is to catch *court-flies*; for which purpose he spends whole days in imitating their buzz, thereby to allure and deceive them: That he is of a sleek fallow complexion and a lowering brow; very choleric and apt to swell at the mention of TRUTH or LIBERTY; That when he frowns, * *all Hell grows darker at his frown*. That he displays a remarkable contraction of the muscles of his up-

* MILTON.

per

per lip, and betrays a smile at the touch of a secretary's wand ; that he has strong convulsions at the sight of certain colours, and feels such attraction to yellow dirt, that for the bare sight of it, he will fetch and carry, leap over a stick, lick a spittle, pray backwards, swear that the first *Charles* was wise, and the second virtuous, that place-men alone are honest, and that *P-----y* is still a patriot, though an earl ; that he will betray his king and curse his God.

OTHERS describe this author to be a man who has the art of seeming wise and important ; that he will this hour bluster and bellow in a public assembly, and the next hour steal up the back stairs to sue for a collection ; that he can be hoarse, or run away, or do any thing but speak, as well as *Demosthenes* : That he resents all imaginary injuries, but bears real insults like a good christian ; that *he can turn, and turn, and yet go on* ; then they cough, and hem, and give deep omened hints, and

and tell the tale of *Galba, that kind spouse, who slept for his friend *Mæcenæ*s.

UNDER such circumstances, to whom, Sir, can this author more justly apply for protection than to you; whom can he more sincerely desire than his SECOND-SELF to espouse him; I determined to find a patron for him, but you prevented my enquiry; your long intimacy gives you the best right to know him, and I am sure, none other will ever set an equal value on him: He cannot live without you; his very being depends upon yours, and as he failed of promotion by his former conduct, he now hopes for success from your last undertaking.

I SHALL say little of the virtues of the patron whom I have chose for this author; your many services, Sir, require a national return instead of private gratitude, and rather than such return

* *Juvenal* has applied this Story of Galba to another Person, in the following Words;

*Doctus spectare Lacunar,
Doctus et ad calicem vigilanti stertere naso.*

should

should be wanting, I should wish to see the nation loaded with pensions. Besides, great advantages have accrued to the learned world from your late writings ; your politicks, have out done *Machiaval*, and your visions are the delight of the curious ; but, Sir, though you should dream more fortunately than the *baker* of *Egypt*, and wake to the real possession of *bread-baskets*, instead of a *halter* ; yet still the nation will be a debtor, and every day of your life will add to the debt. I hope the manner of your death will agree with the manner of your life, that the picture may be uniform, and that the world may cease to wonder. I am, Sir, alike yours, and the following author's friend.

SOME

should be... I should wish to see the...
RESERVATIONS

ON THE
your late writings; your political, have our done
Present State

the curious; but, I think you should dream
more fortunately than the laws of Egypt, and

RELATIONS
of a nation will be 2

deport, and of your life will add to the
with the manner of your life, that the picture

may be uniform, and that the world may cease
to wonder.

LETTER

To his Excellency the

like of D O R S E T

Times Dancers, & Dance Teachers. 2 of 18
an Englishman even when he does me a kindness.

D U B L I N

in the YEAR M DCC XXXI
for the Satisfaction of the Curious.

~~8245.66~~ 31

This is part 2 of 8145.66.97.

1687
SIO ME

OBSERVATIONS

ON THE

Present State

OF

IRELAND,

Particularly with Relation to the

Woollen Manufacture.

IN A

LETTER

To his EXCELLENCY the

Duke of DORSET.

H. Sackville (S.C.) Duke of Dorset.

Timeo Danaos, & Dona ferentes.

VIRG.

I dread an Englishman even when he does me a Kindness.

DUBLIN:

Printed in the YEAR MDCCLXXXI.

And now Re-printed for the Satisfaction of the Curious.

~~OBSERVATIONS~~

OS 16 M E

2 N O L E A M B L E

О И О Г Н Е



Particular attention to the

Wollen Manne

А В И

THE

Duke of Devonshire
 I need not mention how necessary
 and our assistance to the
 gives us certain Assistance that
 joined to the Dignity you now possess
 To his Excellency the
 know no Person more proper to be ap-
 the interest of England.

And now Re-printed for the Satisfaction of the Curious.

SOME
OBSERVATIONS
ON THE
PRESENT STATE
OF
IRELAND.

MY LORD,

IN the extreme Distress, and miserable Uneasiness, under which the People of *Ireland* at present labour, I know no Person more proper to be applied to than your Grace: Your known Humanity and Justice, joined to the Dignity you now possess in this Kingdom, gives us certain Assurances that you will *assist* us under our Misfortunes to the utmost of your Power. I need not mention how *necessary* such a Compassion is to your own Reputation; you must be very sensible of that: Besides, you have no need of a Motive of that kind, where there are others of so much *greater Weight*; the Honour of his Majesty, and the Interest of *England*.

THE lamentable Decay of Trade with us, and the Hardships we suffer, not only for *want of Money*, but

also for want of a proper Regulation of the *little* we have, are Grievances which torture us beyond what any one out of the Kingdom can conceive.

It is impossible for you to comprehend, at the Distance you are at, the Miseries of this People. It would be difficult for you to come at a *true Sense* of them, though you were here. You would see no other Part of the Kingdom, but that which, by its being the Capital, and the Place of your Residence, engrosses the *whole* Wealth of the Country: And you would be surrounded by a Crowd of *hungry* Courtiers, whose Interest it is to represent their People as flourishing as they can, that the more Taxes may be raised upon them, because they imagine the more will fall to their Share. You would likewise meet with Men of Quality and Fortune, whose Vanity would make them endeavour to deceive you, and who are ashamed to confess *their Country's Poverty*, lest it should be a Reproach to them for their own *Extravagance*.

BUT I am certain your Grace will not be misled by *false* Insinuations of this Nature. You will examine into the *Condition* of our Estates, into the *Deficiencies* of our Taxes, and the *Decay* of our Trade. From hence you will be convinced of the *Miseries of the People*.

OUR Estates, 'tis true, are raised near one Third all over the Kingdom within these seven Years. But yet this Circumstance is no Argument that we are in a flourishing Condition; on the contrary, it is one of the *principal Causes* of our Calamities. It proceeded only from hence, that *most* of the Estates of *Ireland* were set, soon after the Revolution, and that infinitely below their *real Value*, on account of the *unsettled* Condition of that Kingdom. They were generally set for 31 Years, so that no Gentleman could make any Advantage of the Quiet we have since enjoyed;

joyed; the Tenants got *all the Profit*, and lived almost as well as their Landlords: But the Case is now altered, and the Tenants are obliged to pay the *full Value* of their Lands, which it is not easy for them to do, when they have used themselves so many Years to all Manner of Extravagance.

THIS is what has, in a great Measure, driven so many out of the Kingdom. They could not support the Shame of altering their way of Life at Home, and chose rather to quit their native Soil for another they knew nothing of, and where they themselves were likewise unknown.

BUT this is not the *worst* Circumstance attending on it; the *Grand Evil* it has occasion'd, is the *Drain* of our Species. Before this new Rise of Lands, the Remittances to our *Absentees* abroad did not exceed the Ballance of Trade in our Favour; so that for many Years we remain'd pretty nearly in the same State with a current Cash of about 600,000 *l.* which was sufficient for the inland Trade of the Kingdom. But the Lands of the *Absentees* being risen a third Part, there is just a third Part more drawn from us, than there was *seven* Years ago; which third Part is so much every Year out of the current Cash of our Kingdom.

Now let us suppose our Remittances abroad, which have been with great Accuracy calculated last Year, to be near 600,000 *l.* to have been no more *seven* Years ago, than 300,000 *l.* By the *Rise of Lands* those Remittances are increas'd 100,000 *l. per Ann.* And let us suppose the Advantages of our Trade to be 350,000 *l. per Ann.* which is *more* than they can be *justly* reckon'd at, our current Cash must be diminish'd every Year 50,000 *l.* which in twelve Years must leave us without a Shilling in the Kingdom. But if we proceed upon the most exact Calculations in both

these Particulars, the Evils advances upon us by much larger Strides, and our annual Loss will appear to be near *Treble* what we have computed it.

THE last Calculation will meet with some Difficulty to be believ'd; for were that the Case, *Ireland* would have been *entirely drain'd* in four Years Time, whereas there is *still* Money in the Kingdom. But in Answer to that, I say, that *Ireland* is actually already so far drain'd, that at present there does not remain 400,000*l.* Besides, the Evil has been *continually* growing, and *never* arriv'd to a considerable Height, till within these three last Years. It is now, indeed, come to that Pass, that if we continue three Years longer in the *same Way*, we must be utterly undone. Our Army is at present many Months in Arrear, our Revenues fall infinitely short; and two Things must inevitably happen in a very short Time: The *Charge* of our Establishment must be defray'd by *England*, as it was in the Infancy of our Government: And our *Absentees* must return and live upon their Estates, which will pay them only in Corn and Cattle.

THIS will, no doubt, be terrible upon the whole Country; but it will be much more so upon the People of *England*; they will lose 500,000*l.* a Year *clear* Profit from our *Absentees*, besides an annual Charge of 500,000 *l. per Ann.* more, which is expended on Account of our Government: And the Expence may be, perhaps, *greater* in that Case than it is at present, since the People will be desperate, and not so easily kept in Order.

THESE Considerations, we are told, have had *great Weight* with the People of *England*. They begin to wear off the *unjust* and *unreasonable* Suspicions they entertain'd of us formerly, and are at last become sensible, that it is of Advantage to *England* to encourage *Ireland*. They perceive, that whatever we get by Trade, centers with them at last, and consequently
are

are *now* employ'd in giving us all the Encouragement they can, without prejudicing themselves. We are very thankful for their intended Kindness; but we are afraid, that not being thoroughly apprized of our Circumstances, they may take Measures prejudicial to *both* Kingdoms.

WE have been long desirous to have two Things allow'd us: The one, a *free Trade* to the Plantations for the unenumerated Commodities: The other some considerable Encouragement with relation to our Wool. The *first* of these being a Thing allow'd to all *other* Nations in the World, and being far from *prejudicing England*, we do not doubt but we shall obtain, whenever it shall come under the Consideration of the *British* Parliament.

THE *other* is now in Debate, and must be a Business of greater Difficulty, because it is an Affair which infinitely concerns the People of *England*. They are very jealous, and very reasonably so, lest any Thing should be done that might hurt the ancient and important Staple of their Country. I hope their Jealousy, however, will not *now* carry them so far as it has *formerly* done, and lead them to study more how to do *Mischief* to their Neighbours, than *Good* to themselves.

THE present *declining* Condition of this Branch of their Trade is principally owing to this *unfortunate* Jealousy. When *Ireland* and *England* together possess'd the sole Benefits of this Manufacture, the *Gain* of both Kingdoms was *exceedingly great*, and *England* finding so much Advantage from a Part of the Trade, were desirous of engrossing the *Whole*, they forgot the Fable of the *Hen* and the *Golden Egg*, and precipitately pass'd an Act to prohibit the *Irish* from sharing that Trade with them.

THAT

THAT Act laid the Foundation of *all* the Misfortunes of *both* Kingdoms. It drove abroad all our Woollen Manufacturers, who set up in different Countries, and taught our Neighbours to steal from us a Manufacture we entirely engross'd before. The Consequences of this were not foreseen, nor were they soon discovered. There requires much Time to bring to Perfection any Thing of this Kind; and till it was brought to Perfection, the *English* flourish'd by their *new* Law, and no doubt thought themselves *deep Politicians* for having made it.

BUT Experience has taught them, that *Injustice*, in the long run, will never thrive. I need not mention the Right that all Nations have to make Use of the Advantages Nature has bestow'd upon them, I shall only observe, that it was extremely severe to hinder them, not only from *exporting* their Manufactures, but also from *sending abroad* their Wool. They suffered them to export it no where but to *England*, where they set a *Duty* on it, which amounted almost to a Prohibition. It was certainly a Notion of those Times that the *Irish* were a different Species of Animals from other Men, and that their Stomachs were formed to digest their Wool.

It would be past the Art of Man to remedy this Misfortune, if Nature had not been more liberal to us than we deserve; but she has been so particularly indulgent to the Islands to which we belong, as to give us a *different* Wool from the rest of the World, and *that* necessary to the Manufactures of all Countries.

By this Means we have it any Time in our Power to re-engross to ourselves the Woollen Trade whenever we please. We have nothing to do but to keep all our Wool *at Home*, and the foreign Manufactures must fall to the Ground. The *English* have *often* endeavoured to effect this, but *always* without Success, because

because they have never made use of the *proper* Method. They have pass'd the most severe Laws against *clandestine* Exporters of Wool; they have gone so far as to make the Punishment Death it self: But they never considered those Laws could not have any Weight with us, since it is as well to be hang'd as starv'd.

THEY have found however, *at last*, that there is no Possibility of hindering us from running our Wool, but by making it our Interest to *keep it at Home*, or to *export* it only to *England*. They are now endeavouring to do the last, by *taking off* the Duty upon our Yarn, which will have some Effect, by *raising* the Price of it to the *French*, and *lowering* it to the *English*. They imagine that by this Means the *Irish* Exporter will prefer a *certain* moderate Gain, to an *uncertain*, tho' *greater* Profit. But I am afraid the Remedy will be very imperfect, because the *French* can afford to give us still a *much greater* Price than the *English*. For *One Third* of our Wool sufficing to make up *Two Thirds* more of theirs; and theirs being infinitely *cheaper* than either the *English* or the *Irish*, they will still get their Materials at a *lower Rate* than we can have them, besides the Advantage of *manufacturing them likewise cheaper*.

THE *English* are suspicious of this, and therefore are desirous that we should take some Method *stronger* than has yet been taken to prevent the running Practice. We shall certainly do our utmost to prevent it, as it will be our Interest, and as it will be the only way to make a *sincere Union* between the Two Nations: But at the same time it may perhaps be impossible; and if that should be the Case, it will be hard to expect it of us. I hope the *English* will make a *better Use* of the Reformation, and of the Liberty of reading the Scriptures, than to copy after *Pharoah*, and expect us to make *Brick without Straw*.

If we are rightly informed, they have already thought of a Scheme for us. They propose a Registry for both Kingdoms, and we are very much obliged to them, for *desiring from us*, only what *they will do by themselves*. They act likewise very prudently in leaving it to ourselves ; because as such a thing could not be done without *raising Money*, I am afraid, if it were done by an *English Act*, it would have no Effect. The Privilege of taxing ourselves being almost the *only* one left us, we are extremely jealous of it, and an Attempt of that Kind, might have Consequences too *terrible* to be mentioned : At least, if such a Scheme *was* to be put in Practice, it would be more effectually done by an *Irish*, than by an *English Act*, which the People of *Ireland* do not think of the same Force here, as the People of *England* would have it.

HOWEVER, we cannot imagine that the Scheme will be pursued either in *England* or *Ireland*. The *English* are jealous of their *Liberties*, and tho' they are not so anxious about the *Freedom* of their Neighbours, abhor any thing in their own Country that has the least Appearance of Slavery. A Registry will not only have *something* of that Air, but may in reality occasion a *very great* Dependance on the Crown. The People will not readily bear to be harra's'd by a *New Set* of Officers, to whom their Houses must be open at all Hours of the Day and Night : And the Influence those Officers will have in all *Boroughs*, and upon all *Elections*, may be of very ill Consequence. Besides, the Expence would be upwards of *Threescore* or *Fourscore* thousand Pounds, which would be a *great Weight*, added to the other vast Sums they raise.

IN *Ireland* I believe it would be very difficult, for all the Reasons mentioned in the Case of *England* ; but for the last (the Expence of it) utterly impracticable.

able. The *least* that a Registry would cost with us, would be 40000 *l. per Annum*; and how is it possible for a Nation in so *miserable* a Condition, whose Revenues are at present in so *bad* a State, to think of bearing so *great* an additional Charge. Besides, it would be in effectual there on this Account, the *Irish* Country Gentlemen are all concerned in the clandestine Trade; they would get the Officers to their Houses, and make them drunk whenever they intended to run. Those Sort of Fellows were *never so true* to their Trust, as to prefer their *Duty* to a *good Supper* and their *Belly full of Wine*. But if they should be diligent, and make frequent Seizures, the Justices of the Peace are all the same Gentlemen, who would hardly be induced to punish their *own Servants* for the Execution of their *own Commands*.

THE *English* have not only been so kind as to put us into a Way to prevent our clandestine Trade, but they have likewise *pointed out* to us the Method to *raise* the Money necessary to compleat their Scheme. There is a Duty upon Wool in *Ireland* called the *Licence Duty*, which produces 4000 *l. per Annum*, and has been from Time immemorial appropriated to the Lord Lieutenant. This Duty, they propose we should transmute into a kind of Excise upon Wool, which every Grower of Wool must pay upon the shearing of his Sheep. Either this Duty will suffice to *defray* the Expence of a Registry, or it will not: If it will not, which it is utterly impossible it should, because the Number of our Sheep is much smaller than is imagined, the Project is at an End for want of a Fund to support it: If it should, that can happen no other Way than by setting so *high* a Duty on the Wool, as will make it infinitely too dear for the *English* Merchant to buy, which will effectually frustrate it in another Shape.

I CANNOT help observing farther, that a Tax of this kind, tho' it might answer in all *other* Respects, would still be insupportable, from *this* Consideration,
That

That it would raise the Price of our Home Consumption to an extravagant Degree. The Licence Duty is very different; for that only affects exported Wool; whereas this is an equal Load upon that which we manufacture at Home, and will make our *Stuffs* so dear, that our own People cannot afford to wear them.

From all these Considerations I think it evident that a Registry will be *impracticable*, as well as *ineffectual*. And I believe there is but *one* Method in Nature which in the End would not be found the same. This is the allowing us to manufacture our own Wool. I do not desire that we should exercise the Woollen Trade in the same free Manner that the *English* do. But were *that* allow'd us, I am convinced, it would be for the Benefit of *England*. Not only from this general and serious Consideration, that they will get *all our Profits*, let them be what they will; but from this Assurance, that such a Liberty would *utterly confound* the foreign Manufactures, and that without *lowering the Price* of the *English* Commodities. It is certain indeed, that our Manufacture would be *cheaper*, and might have the *first Vent*; but it is as certain, theirs would meet with as sure a Market. When the whole World could be supplied *only* with the Product of the two Islands, the Demands for their Goods would infinitely exceed what they could possibly answer, and consequently *raise their Value*.

BUT because some Persons are dubious whether *our Wool is absolutely necessary to the foreign Manufactures or not*, I shall beg leave to enter a little into that Affair. Let us state the Case which Way we please, it still appears the *Interest of England* to encourage the *Irish*: If the foreign Manufactures cannot be carried on *without Irish Wool*, then surely it is the Interest of *England* to take any Method to *keep it from them*; and they have no Reason to fear being *rivall'd* by us, if *that* could be effected, because, as I observed before, there

there would be Work enough for *both*. But if they can do without *our Wool*, the Pains we take to keep it at Home, are to very little Purpose. All we could do in that Case would be, to strive to undersel our Neighbours; which we could *never attain to* without employing the People of *Ireland*. As for *England*, 'tis so loaded with Debt, and oppressed with Taxes, that no Manufacture can hereafter flourish there.

I HAVE enter'd the more into this *last* Particular, tho' it will bear but little canvassing, in Hopes of giving a *more general* Satisfaction. For as to this Point itself, it is past all Doubt, that *our Wool is absolutely necessary to the foreign Manufactures*. And this one Circumstance, that they pay so *high* a Price for it, is the strongest Proof of it that can be urged,

THIS being the Case, I think it would be no unreasonable Petition, if we desired to have the Woollen Trade allow'd us without any Restriction. But surely we do not ask too much by desiring Leave to manufacture a *particular* Species of Stuffs, which interfere *very little* with the Manufactures of *England*, such as Frizes and Flannels. Nay if it should appear *too great* an Indulgence to suffer us to carry on a Trade abroad, with *any* Species of the Woollen Manufacture, tho' it would be a *considerable* Advantage to *England*, because we must traffick in *their Bottoms*; yet we are contented if they will suffer us to *work up* our Wool, only to export to *England*, where they may make the *farther* Profit upon it: And this will take away the common Clamour, that *We shall undersel them in foreign Markets*; for in that Case they may set what Price they please on *our Manufactures*, and sell them abroad as dear as *their own*.

BUT if *every one* of these Requests should be deny'd us, we shall then be under a Necessity of *recalling* our Gentlemen who live among you, or we must confiscate their Estates. This has been formerly done, and the

the Necessities of our Country were *never* more pressing than they are *Now*. If this should happen the *English* would loose more *that Way* than ever they could gain by *engrossing the Woollen Manufacture*. And that it must happen if Things continue in the same Train, is past all doubt, for we must be Beggars in a *very few Years*.

In short, my Lord, the *English* must do one of these Two Things, they must either *send us back our Absentees*, or allow us to *manufacture our Wool*. We cannot subsist, *cramp'd* in our Trade, and *drained* of our Specie too. The first of these would be most advantageous to us, because without it the *other* would lose of its Effect. With what Comfort or Spirit can we labour, when it is to no other End than to enrich a *Set of Men*, who deservedly have the Curses of a Nation they endeavour to ruin, and to whose Support they do not so much contribute, as the *meanest Shoe-boy* in *Dublin*.

You may tell me, perhaps, that I ought to apply to my Countrymen in *England* to remedy the Evil, who as they *caus'd* it, and as they must *suffer* by it in the End, are the *properest* Persons to remonstrate to. But what can we expect from Men who have *lost* all Sense of the strongest Ties of Nature, who have *abandon'd* their Country in its last Agonies, who are so *stupid* as not to foresee the *inevitable* Beggary, and total Ruin of their Families; and lastly, who are so *abandon'd to Shame*, that they can *live in a foreign Country* distress'd, abhorr'd, and despis'd, when they can *return to their own*, where they would be lov'd, fear'd and respected.

* But my Resentments have carried me too far, and made me speak with a Warmth, which nothing but my Country's Distress could justify; however, I

* See the second Letter to the Citizens of DUBLIN.

shall

shall make this Use of it, to let you know, that a *much greater* Spirit boils in the Heart of every *Irishman* at this Juncture: A Spirit which has *united* all Parties, *Whig* and *Tory*, *Protestant* and *Papist*, and which may be very troublesome to your Grace the next Session of Parliament, if something effectual is not done to relieve us. I speak it not by way of *Threat*, for it would be as much *below you* to regard such a Behaviour, as it would be *above us*, to be guilty of it. I speak it not with Haughtiness or Pride, but with the *greatest Dread and Horror*, that I am convinced if we continue long in so wretched a Condition, we shall be plunged into a Scene of the utmost Confusion. *Poverty* and *Despair*, the Consequences of it, may drive us terrible Lengths: They will take away our Reason, and we shall then have *very little Regard* for our own Preservation. As it is at present we very little care what comes of us, and with ourselves as heartily at the Bottom of the Sea, as *England* ever did: All that may follow from hence I dare not suggest. One Consequence, which is the *least terrible* that can happen, will be, that all the *Protestants* of the Kingdom, in a few Years more, will leave it for *New-England*, a Country much more likely at present to shake off its Dependance on the Crown of *England* than ever we were. The *Papists* will then be left Masters of *Ireland*, and, if *unassisted*, may perhaps employ the *English* another 400 Years before they are subdued; if *supported* by a foreign Power, as it is probable they will be, it will be improbable they would be *re-subdued at all*.

THESE Considerations should induce the *English* to use us with all *Indulgence* instead of *Restraint*. The very Argument they use against it, is a strong one on that Side the Question. If they are afraid we should *rebel*, which I am sure is a *barbarous* and an *unjust* Suspicion, they should use us so as to make us run some Risque in doing it, they should allow us something that *we* might *fear* to lose; instead of that they leave

us in a State, which we run no Risque in *changing*, because there cannot be a *worse*. We are destitute of the *Necessaries of Life*, and we have lost those Liberties which are dearest to Mankind. There remains *nothing* but Life, which in so calamitous a Condition is worse than Death. Examine antient History; observe whether the most *frequent* Causes of *Revolutions* have been *Opulence and Plenty*, or *Poverty and Oppression*. Reflect on the *last* Revolution of these latter Ages, and see whether it was Power and Riches that enabled the *Low-Countries* to shake off the *Spanish* Yoak. If this should appear, then I shall never trouble your Grace more, nor desire your Assistance.

BUT as I am convinced the Case is otherwise, and *England* acts a very *imprudent* Part in oppressing this Country, I boldly venture to give my Thoughts upon their *present* Condition; and I do it with greater Confidence, because my Stake is not only very small here, but likewise of such a Nature, that it would not be prejudiced by any Misfortune that can probably happen to us: What principally engaged me in this Affair, was that which has as *great an Influence* upon your Grace as upon any Man living, a tender Compassion for the *Miseries* of our Fellow-Creatures.

I am,

Your Grace's, &c.

6 DE 58

